

Arguments/ Remarks

I. Status

Claims 108-115, 123, 125-136 were previously pending. Applicants have herewith cancelled claims 125-130. Accordingly, claims 108-115, 123, 131-136 are pending. Claims 112-115 were previously withdrawn as directed to a non-elected species of the elected invention. All claims stand free of the art. Applicants respectfully request entry of the requested amendments in order to reduce the issues that would need to be resolved upon Appeal.

Applicants greatly appreciate the courtesy of the Examiner in clarifying the basis of the Advisory Action of March 21, 2008. Applicants have herewith cancelled claims to all non-elected inventions. Applicants respectfully request entry of the requested amendments in order to reduce the issues that would need to be resolved should an Appeal be required.

II. Examination of Additional Claimed Species of Elected Invention

As the Examiner will recall, the Restriction Requirement of August 28, 2006, identified 10 inventions that were stated to be separate and distinct. In response, Applicants elected to prosecute the claims of **Group I** (directed to antibodies or fragments thereof that bind FcγRIIB with greater affinity than human native FcγRIIA.

The Restriction Requirement of August 28, 2006, also required Applicants to elect for purposes of orderly examination a species of: **(a)** a specific antibody produced by a specific clone and **(b)** whether the antibody is (A) not conjugated, or (B) is conjugated to a specific cytotoxin. Applicants responded to such species election requirement by electing the antibody produced by clone 1F2, that is not conjugated and does not comprise a modification in the Fc region and that antagonizes at least one activity of FcγRIIB.

In light of Applicants' understanding that claims to the elected species are in condition for Allowance, Applicants respectfully request examination of the additional species encompassed by Applicants' pending claims. It is believed that the full scope of claims 108-115, 123, 131-136 is thus suitable for Examination and Allowance.

III. Concluding Remarks

Applicants submit that the present response is complete and complies with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §121. The Application is believed to be in condition for further Examination and early notice of favorable action is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any remaining questions regarding the subject invention or its patentability, Applicants encourage the Examiner to contact the undersigned.

Date: **March 31, 2008**
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Respectfully Submitted,

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